

"For Every Woman"
by Tina Ortiz

This is a mans world
That's what James said
No good without women or girls
A fact that hasn't been faced yet
She
Drop gems worth more than diamonds and pearls
Yet still can't seem to get ahead in this world
She
For reasons that remain unknown
Is expected to give her all down to her very soul
She
Obliges
Beat down still she rises
Always showing up
Even with no one behind her
She's
Praying her cries be heard by rolling thunder
Not realizing she's the 8th world wonder
Capable of more than just wife or mother
Potential untapped
While they try to keep us under
And tell us we're less than, we're weaker
Not as smart nor eager
Undeserving of our place in a world we helped create
Literal dna in the ether
She
remains strong through changing weather
Thoroughly skilled in thankless work for being born Tina and not Trevor
When the truth is that anything he can do she can do better
A woman's life is like a daily fight for the right
To...
Exist...
A right you were born with

Yet Almost every decision she wants to make in her life is governed by old white men

Taking part in the female struggle these days seems like a hobby

Where do you get off making laws about what I can and can't do with my body

These are the reasons y'all should stay in a mans place

And daily I'm reminded

If you could I know you'd take time and rewind it

To a time before we snatched up our freedoms one by one

Have it your way and we'd be allowed to do nothing under the sun

You put limitations on what you fear

In an attempt to control

But to be female is a divinity housed deep within the soul

You won't admit it but you need us

Hard truth served cold

You're the plant withering out in the sun

She is the water you need to grow

She

No longer begs to be seen

She demands to be respected

She

No longer holds her tongue in fear of being rejected

She breathes life into the universe with the strength of mountains and rage of the sea

She speaks on behalf of all of us

I'm every woman

It's all in me...